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**Juristat**

## **Adult criminal court statistics in Canada, 2013/2014**

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- not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- <sup>P</sup> preliminary
- <sup>r</sup> revised
- X suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- <sup>E</sup> use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published
- \* significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

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## Adult criminal court statistics in Canada, 2013/2014: highlights

- In 2013/2014, there were more than 360,000 cases completed in adult criminal court, which represented a 7% decrease in the number of cases from the previous year.
- The number of completed cases declined in most provinces/territories in 2013/2014. Quebec (-15%), British Columbia (-9%) and Prince Edward Island (-8%) reported the largest year-over-year decreases in the number of completed cases. In contrast, Yukon experienced an increase (+6%) in the number of completed cases, while completed cases in Manitoba and Alberta remained relatively stable.
- Most adult criminal court cases in 2013/2014 involved non-violent crime, representing 76% of all completed cases. Impaired driving continued to represent the largest proportion of all completed cases, at 11%. This was closely followed by cases involving theft (10%) and failure to comply with a court order (10%).
- Property crime court cases decreased by 7%, with the largest declines occurring within break and enter (-12%) and other property offences (-11%) cases. Cases involving administration of justice offences decreased by 4% in 2013/2014.
- There were 7% fewer violent crime cases in 2013/2014. Cases involving robbery (-15%), uttering threats (-10%), and other violent offences (-10%) had the largest year-over-year declines.
- Persons under the age of 35 represented almost 60% of all accused persons appearing in adult criminal court in 2013/2014.
- Similar to previous years, 63% of all cases completed in adult criminal court resulted in a finding of guilt. Guilty findings varied by province and territory, with Prince Edward Island reporting the highest proportion of guilty cases (78%), and Ontario reporting the lowest (55%).
- Probation was the most common type of sentence imposed in adult criminal court in 2013/2014, at 43% of all guilty cases. The median length of probation was 365 days.
- Custody was the second most frequently imposed sentence in 2013/2014. Slightly more than one third (36%) of all guilty cases received a custodial sentence. Prince Edward Island had the highest proportion of guilty cases with a sentence of custody, at 62%.
- Most custodial sentences had a length of less than six months in 2013/2014. The median length of custody was 30 days. Only 3% of custody cases received a sentence of two years or more.
- The median length of time taken to complete a case in adult criminal court in 2013/2014 was 123 days, which was an increase of three days from the previous year.

## Adult criminal court statistics in Canada, 2013/2014

by Ashley Maxwell

The criminal court system consists of multiple court levels with responsibility shared between federal, provincial and territorial governments. Courts are responsible for making decisions regarding the culpability of those accused of committing a criminal offence, and determining an appropriate sentence for those who are found or plead guilty (Department of Justice Canada 2015). The United Nations has indicated that reliable and comprehensive statistics on criminal justice allows policy makers and government officials to accurately assess and monitor the conditions, circumstances and trends of the justice system, as well as the well-being and social impact of public expenditures and policies (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2006). There is a need for robust justice indicators related to Canadian criminal courts, as they are essential tools to help make the criminal justice system more transparent and accountable (Dandurand et. al 2015).

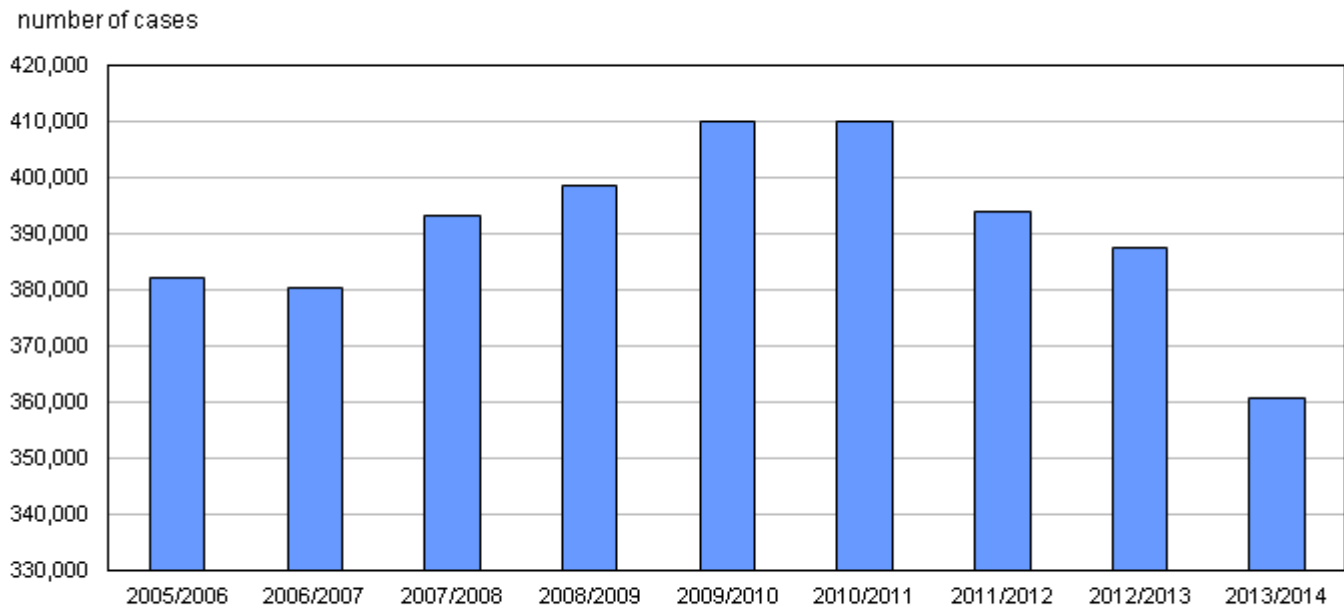
This *Juristat* utilizes data from the 2013/2014 Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS), and presents information on the characteristics of criminal court cases involving adults (18 years and older).<sup>1</sup> It presents several key indicators of the adult criminal court process, and focuses on the number of completed cases (including the most common types of offences), the decisions made in cases, as well as the types of sentences that are imposed on accused persons who are found guilty. In addition, this article briefly presents results by age and sex of the accused, median sentence lengths, as well as the amount of time it takes to process completed adult criminal court cases and the factors which may influence court timeliness.

Data presented in this article exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. As a result, this report may underestimate the severity of sentences, because some of the most serious cases are processed in superior courts, as well as case elapsed times, since the more serious cases typically require more court appearances and take more time to complete. In 2013/2014, superior court data reported to the survey represented less than 1% of all cases completed in adult criminal court.

Comparisons between jurisdictions should be made with caution. There are many factors that influence variations between jurisdictions.<sup>2</sup> These may include Crown and police charging practices, offence distributions, and various types of diversion programs. These types of alternative measure programs divert individuals accused of less serious crimes out of the formal justice system by dealing with them through non-judicial, community-based alternatives (Public Prosecution Service of Canada 2014).

### Completed adult criminal court cases decrease in 2013/2014

In 2013/2014, there were 360,640 cases completed in adult criminal court, which involved nearly 1.1 million charges related to *Criminal Code* and other federal statute offences (Table 1). This represented a 7% decrease in the number of completed cases from the previous year.<sup>3</sup> Since 2010/2011, the number of completed cases has been declining, resulting in a 12% decrease in completed cases between 2010/2011 and 2013/2014 (Chart 1).

**Chart 1****Cases completed in adult criminal court, Canada, 2005/2006 to 2013/2014**

**Note:** A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

The decrease from the previous year in the number of completed adult criminal court cases occurred throughout most of the country in 2013/2014. Quebec demonstrated the largest decline (-15%) in the number of cases, followed by British Columbia (-9%) and Prince Edward Island (-8%) (Table 2). In contrast, Yukon had an increase in the number of completed cases (+6%), while completed cases in Manitoba (0%) and Alberta (+1%) remained relatively stable.<sup>4</sup>

**Text box 1****Administration of justice practices and statistical trends**

In Canada, the creation of criminal law legislation is of federal jurisdiction, while the provinces are responsible for administering this legislation. Both the creation and administration of legislation are likely to affect the workload and operations in Canada's criminal courts.

The federal, provincial and territorial governments are working together to identify and establish best practices to improve the efficiency of the Canadian justice system. Over the years, the different levels of government have put forward a variety of initiatives that influence the volume of cases and the processing of those cases before the courts.

Below are four examples of the many initiatives that may impact the workload and processing of cases before the country's courts:

1. *Fair and Efficient Criminal Trials Act* (federal)
2. Court-supervised drug treatment program (Quebec)
3. Justice on Target Strategy (Ontario)
4. *Motor Vehicle Act* (British Columbia)

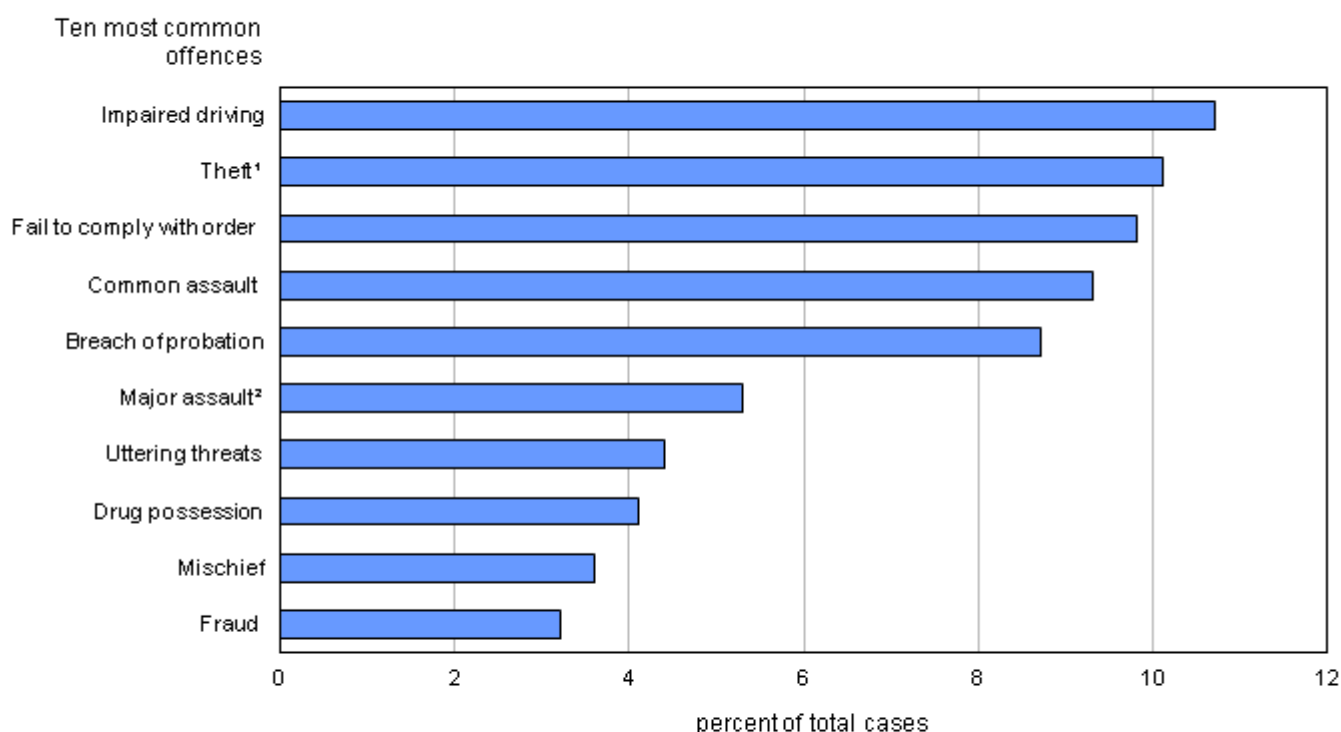
The statistical trends presented in this report reflect the progress made in implementing all of these practices and initiatives and are based on standardized reporting rules established with Statistics Canada's various partners. However, it is impossible to identify a specific initiative as the source of the changes observed in the statistical trends; rather, the trends reflect the results of these initiatives combined.

## Most completed adult criminal court cases involve non-violent offences

In 2013/2014, most cases that were completed in adult criminal court involved non-violent offences.<sup>5</sup> This pattern has been consistent over time, and is also consistent with police-reported crime statistics that show that most criminal incidents involve non-violent offences (Boyce 2015). In 2013/2014, more than three quarters (76%) of all cases completed in adult criminal court involved non-violent crime, which included property offences (23%), administration of justice offences (23%), *Criminal Code* traffic offences (13%), other non-violent *Criminal Code* offences (4%) and other federal statute offences (13%) (Table 3). The remaining 24% of completed cases involved violent offences.

Similar to previous years, ten offence types represented almost 70% of all cases completed in adult criminal court in 2013/2014. Impaired driving was the most common offence, representing 11% of all cases (Chart 2). This was closely followed by theft (10%), failure to comply with a court order (10%) and common assault (9%).

**Chart 2**  
**Ten most common offences for cases completed in adult criminal court, Canada, 2013/2014**



1. Includes, for example, theft over and under \$5,000 as well as motor vehicle theft.

2. Includes, for example, assault with a weapon (level 2) and aggravated assault (level 3).

**Note:** A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence. Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

Between 2012/2013 and 2013/2014, most types of cases involving violent crime decreased. Violent crime cases overall decreased by 7%, with the largest decreases occurring in robbery (-15%), uttering threats (-10%) and other violent offences<sup>6</sup> (-10%) cases. In contrast, violent crime cases involving attempted murder (+28%) and homicide<sup>7</sup> (+6%) increased in 2013/2014, while criminal harassment cases (+1%) remained relatively stable.

All cases involving property offences decreased in 2013/2014. The largest decreases occurred within break and enter (-12%), other property offences<sup>8</sup> (-11%), and theft (-8%) cases.

Administration of justice offences continued to represent more than 1 in 5 cases (23%) completed in adult criminal court in 2013/2014. This category of offences, which includes offences such as failure to appear in court and breach of probation,

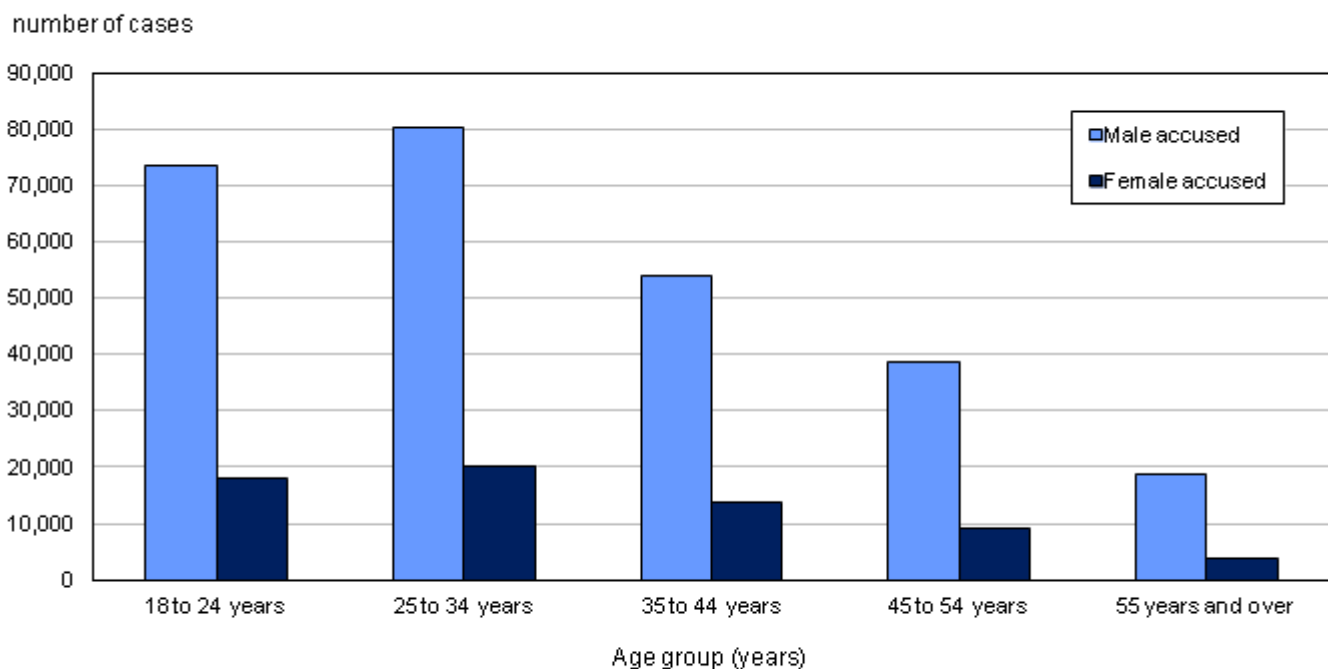
gradually increased between 2005/2006 and 2010/2011. Beginning in 2011/2012, the number of cases involving administration of justice offences began to decline. This offence type decreased by 4% in 2013/2014.<sup>9</sup>

Within the Canadian *Criminal Code*, there are certain offences which carry mandatory minimum sentences for accused persons who are found guilty.<sup>10</sup> In 2013/2014, there were 41,258 cases involving offences which carry a mandatory minimum sentence, representing a decrease (-7%) from the previous year.<sup>11</sup> Most of these cases involved impaired driving (92%). The remaining cases were distributed between violent crime offences (6%), and other *Criminal Code* offences such as weapons (1%) and prostitution (1%).

## Majority of adult court cases involve young adults

In 2013/2014, accused persons under the age of 35 represented almost 60% of all individuals appearing in adult criminal court (Chart 3).<sup>12</sup> This age group represented a similar proportion (65%) of accused persons in police reported crime statistics in 2013/2014.<sup>13</sup> Yet, this same age group represented 29% of the total adult population in 2013.<sup>14, 15</sup> Between 2000/2001 and 2011/2012, those aged 18 to 24 represented the largest proportion of accused persons appearing in adult criminal court.<sup>16</sup> However, beginning in 2012/2013, there was a slight shift in the distribution of ages and those aged 25 to 34 accounted for the largest proportion of accused persons. This continued in 2013/2014, when those aged 25 to 34 accounted for 30% of accused persons appearing in adult criminal court, and those aged 18 to 24 represented a slightly smaller proportion (28%) of accused.

**Chart 3**  
Cases completed in adult criminal court, by age group and sex of the accused, Canada, 2013/2014



**Note:** Includes information on accused persons aged 18 years or over at the time of the offence. Excludes cases in which the age and/or the sex of the accused was unknown. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. Information on the sex of the accused is not available from Manitoba.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

There were some types of adult criminal court cases, particularly some of the most violent ones, for which young adults were more represented than other age groups. For example, young adults under the age of 35 accounted for a larger proportion of the accused in cases of robbery (79%) and homicide (71%) in 2013/2014.

Males represented the majority (80%) of accused persons appearing in adult criminal court, while females represented a much smaller proportion (20%) in 2013/2014 (Table 4). Men represented a substantially higher proportion of accused persons in violent crime cases, such as sexual assault (99%), other sexual offences (97%) and robbery (89%). When women accused were before the courts, it was most frequently in relation to non-violent crime such as theft (35%) and fraud (33%).

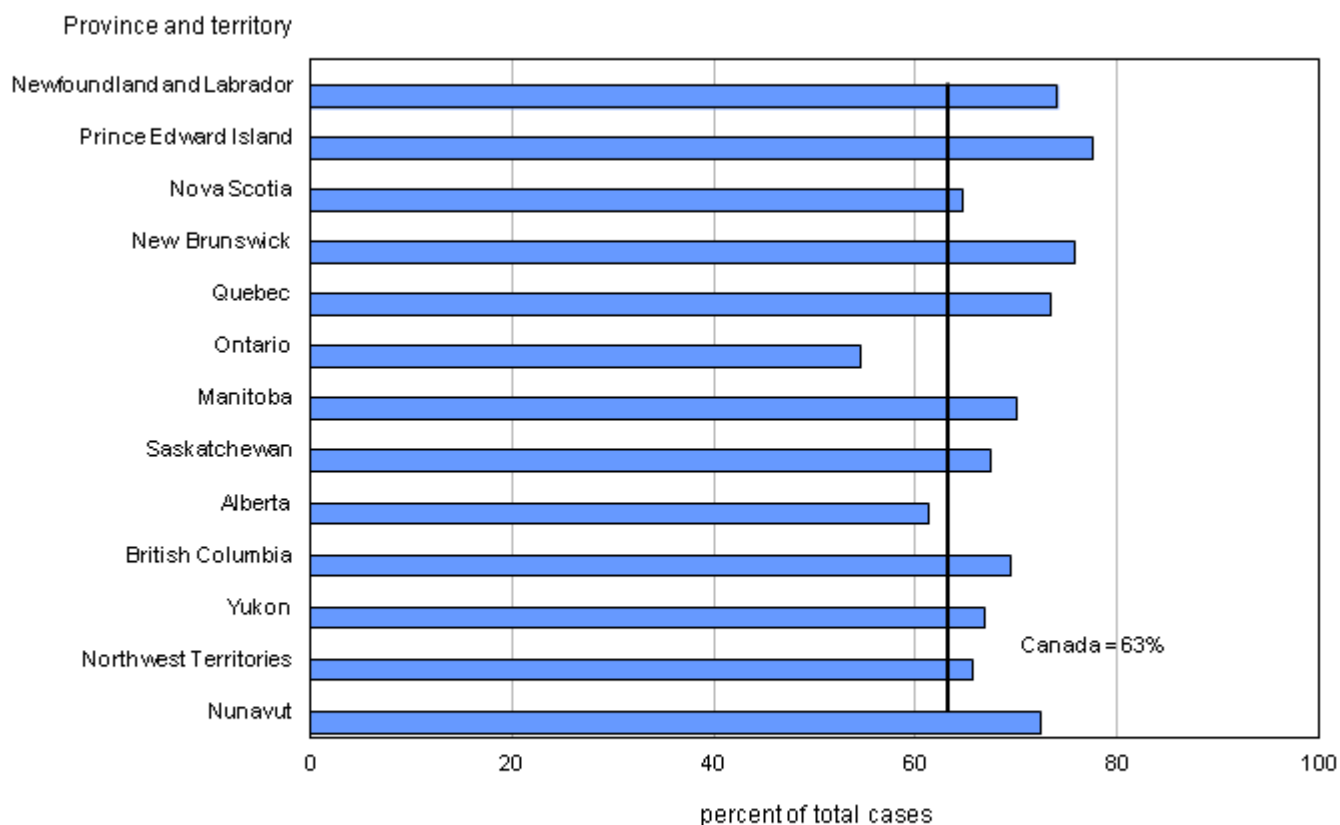
## Almost two thirds of all completed adult cases result in finding of guilt

Cases completed in adult criminal court typically result in one of three types of decisions. The most common outcome is a finding of guilt. In addition to a finding of guilt imposed by the court, this category includes guilty pleas, and cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.<sup>17</sup> Cases may also be stopped or interrupted for a variety of reasons (e.g., lack of sufficient evidence or referral to an alternative measures program), resulting in charges being stayed (suspended for up to one year), withdrawn, dismissed or discharged. Lastly, cases may result in an acquittal, in which the accused is found not guilty of the charges presented before the court.<sup>18</sup>

In 2013/2014, 63% of all cases completed in adult criminal court resulted in a finding of guilt. This proportion has remained relatively stable over the past ten years. In 2013/2014, 32% of all completed cases were stayed or withdrawn, and 4% of cases were acquitted. The remaining 1% of completed cases resulted in another type of decision, such as the accused was found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder (Table 5).<sup>19, 20</sup>

The proportion of cases resulting in a guilty finding varies throughout the country. In 2013/2014, the highest proportion of guilty findings for cases completed in adult criminal court was in Prince Edward Island (78%) (Chart 4). The lowest proportion of such cases was in Ontario (55%).

**Chart 4**  
**Guilty cases in adult criminal court, by province and territory, 2013/2014**



**Note:** A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. There are many factors that may influence variations between jurisdictions, therefore, comparisons should be made with caution.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

Variations in court decisions among the provinces and territories may be affected by the use of pre-charge screening. Pre-charge screening refers to a formal process whereby a Crown prosecutor (as opposed to police) determines whether a criminal charge is laid and proceeds to court (Public Prosecution Service of Canada 2014). Pre-charge screening systems are currently in place in New Brunswick, Quebec and British Columbia, where the proportions of guilty findings were among the highest in the country in 2013/2014.



Another factor that may also impact the decision reached in criminal court is plea negotiations, or “plea bargaining”. Plea negotiations involve an agreement between the accused and the prosecutor, wherein the accused pleads guilty in exchange for the prosecutor agreeing to take a particular course of action (Verdun-Jones 2012). These agreements may touch on the nature of the charges, the sentence, or the facts that may be presented in court. The extent to which plea negotiations are utilized in Canada currently remains unknown.

## **Cases involving violent offences result in guilty finding less often than non-violent cases**

In 2013/2014, cases completed in adult criminal court involving violent offences resulted in a finding of guilt less often than property offences and administration of justice offences (50% versus 59% and 72%, respectively) (Table 5).

However, the types of decisions reached by the courts varied considerably by the specific type of offence. For example, in 2013/2014, among violent offences, 59% of robbery cases resulted in a guilty finding, while this was the finding in 20% of attempted murder cases. The majority of attempted murder cases resulted in a decision of stayed/withdrawn (65%).

The administration of justice category of cases also showed similar variation among specific offence types. Failure to appear in court resulted in a finding of guilt in 46% of cases, while the proportion was almost double in unlawfully at large cases (83%).

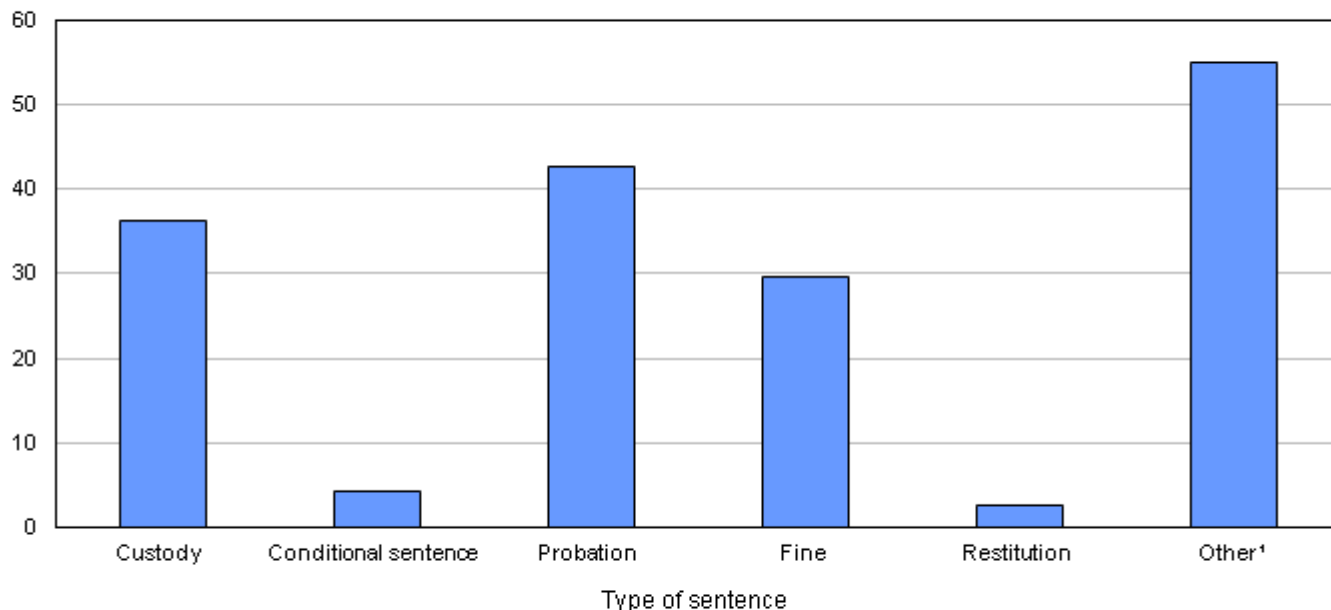
## **Probation most common sentence imposed in adult criminal court**

Judges are responsible for determining the appropriate sentence for accused persons who are found guilty of a criminal offence. In doing so, they must consider the key principles of sentencing, as well as weigh various factors associated with the incident such as the gravity of offence, the amount of harm inflicted upon the victim(s), as well as the criminal history of the accused (Department of Justice 2005).

In 2013/2014, probation continued to be the most common type of sentence imposed in adult criminal court cases, either on its own or in combination with another type of sentence, at 43% of all guilty cases (Table 6). A probation sentence requires the offender to remain in the community and be subject to particular conditions, such as keeping the peace and appearing in court as required. In 2013/2014, the median length of probation in Canada was 365 days (1 year) (Chart 5).

**Chart 5**  
**Guilty cases in adult criminal court, by type of sentence, Canada, 2013/2014**

percent of guilty cases



1. Includes, for example, absolute and conditional discharge, suspended sentence, community service order and prohibition order.

**Note:** Cases may involve more than one type of sentence, therefore, percentages do not total 100%. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

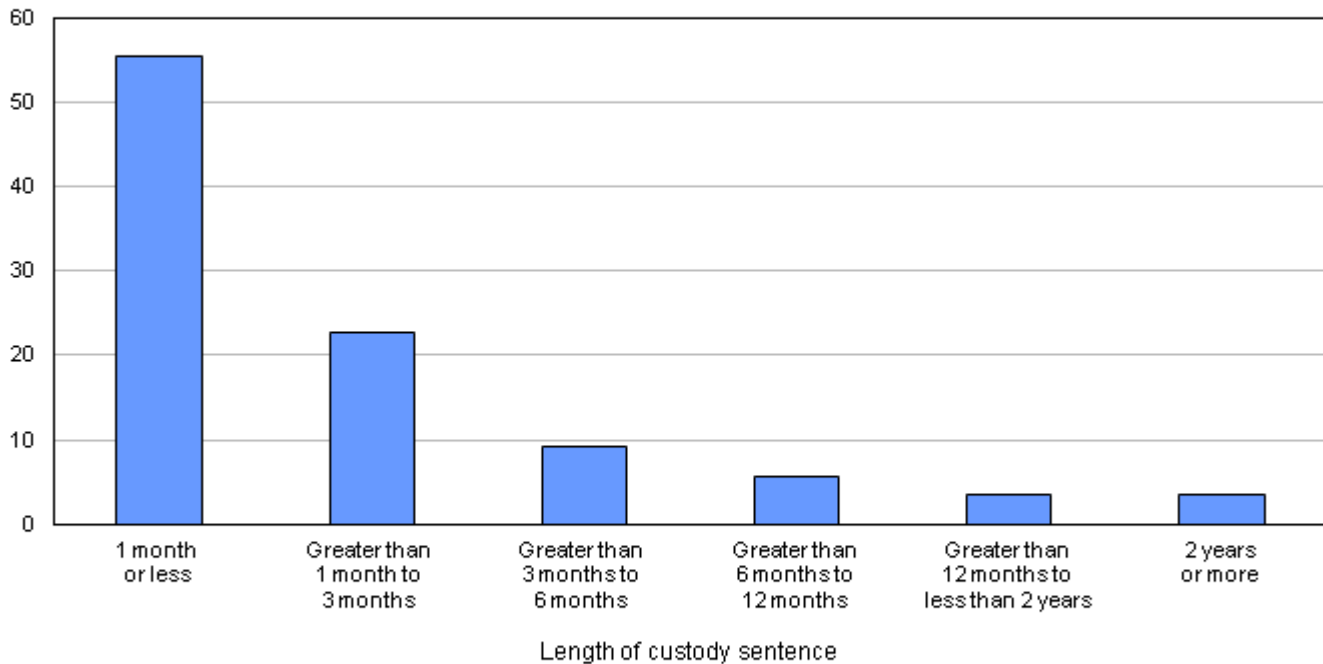
A fine was imposed in 30% of adult criminal court cases in 2013/2014. In general, fines can range from small amounts for less serious offences, to large amounts for more serious offences. In 2013/2014, the median amount of fine imposed was \$600.

**Most custody sentences less than 6 months**

In 2013/2014, custodial sentences were imposed in just over one third (36%) of guilty adult criminal court cases (Table 6). In 2013/2014, 87% of individuals sentenced to custody received a sentence of six months or less (Chart 6).<sup>21</sup> Only about 3% of individuals received a sentence of two years or more. The median length of a custodial sentence in 2013/2014 was 30 days (1 month).<sup>22</sup>

**Chart 6**  
**Guilty cases in adult criminal court, by length of custody sentence,**  
**Canada, 2013/2014**

percent of cases  
 sentenced to custody

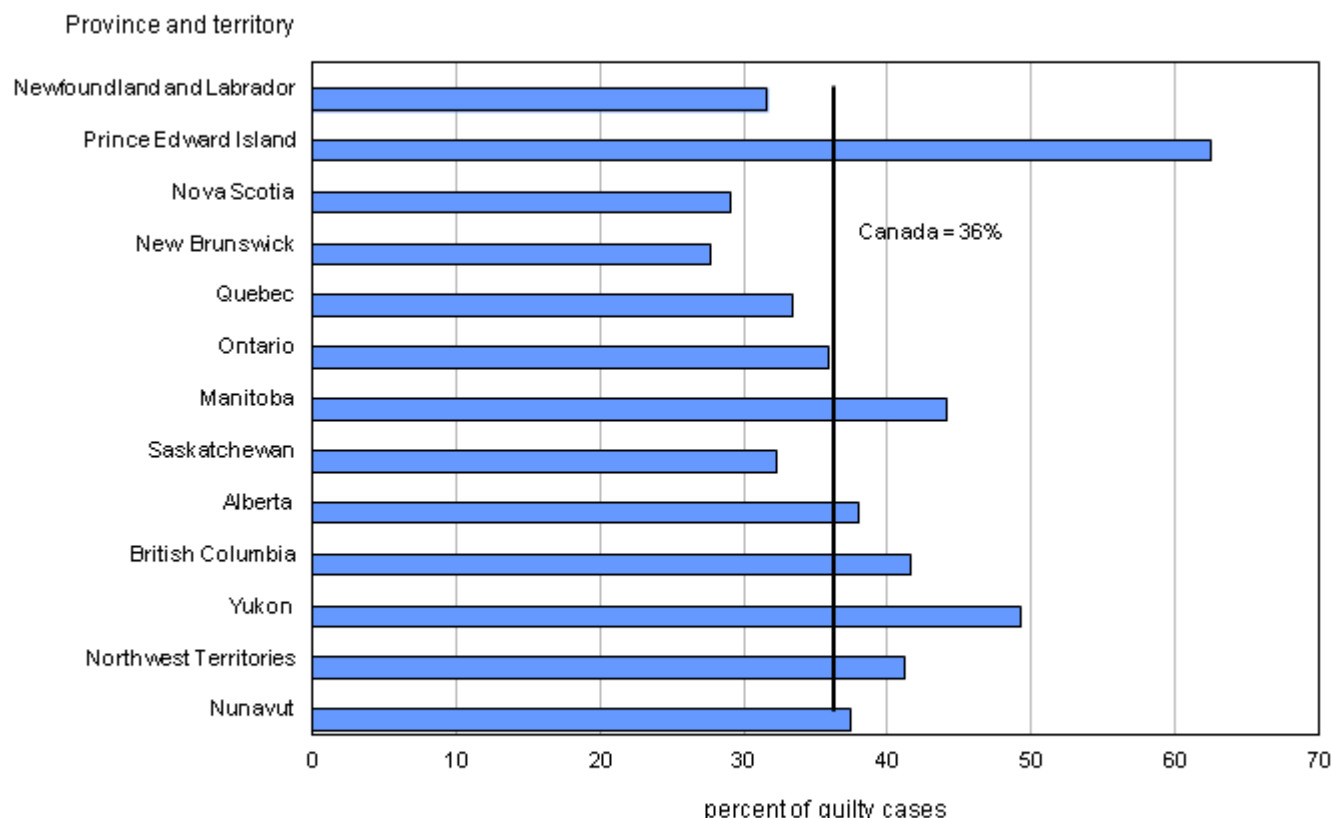


**Note:** Custodial sentence lengths exclude time spent in custody prior to sentencing and/or the amount of credit awarded for time spent in pre-sentence custody. Excludes cases in which the length of the custody sentence was unknown. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. Length of custody data are not available from Manitoba.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

The proportion of completed cases that receive a sentence of custody varies across the provinces and territories. In 2013/2014, Prince Edward Island (62%) imposed custodial sentences at a considerably higher proportion than the rest of Canada (36%) (Chart 7). In contrast, the lowest proportions of custody sentences were found in New Brunswick (28%), Nova Scotia (29%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (32%).

**Chart 7**  
**Guilty cases in adult criminal court sentenced to custody, by province and territory, 2013/2014**



**Note:** A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. There are many factors that may influence variations between jurisdictions, therefore, comparisons should be made with caution.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

Similar to previous years, the main reason for the high proportion of custodial sentences in Prince Edward Island relates to cases of impaired driving.<sup>23</sup> In that province, courts imposed a custodial sentence in the majority (87%) of all impaired driving cases in 2013/2014. In contrast, when looking at Canada as a whole, 9% of all impaired driving cases were sentenced to custody.

### Case processing times increase

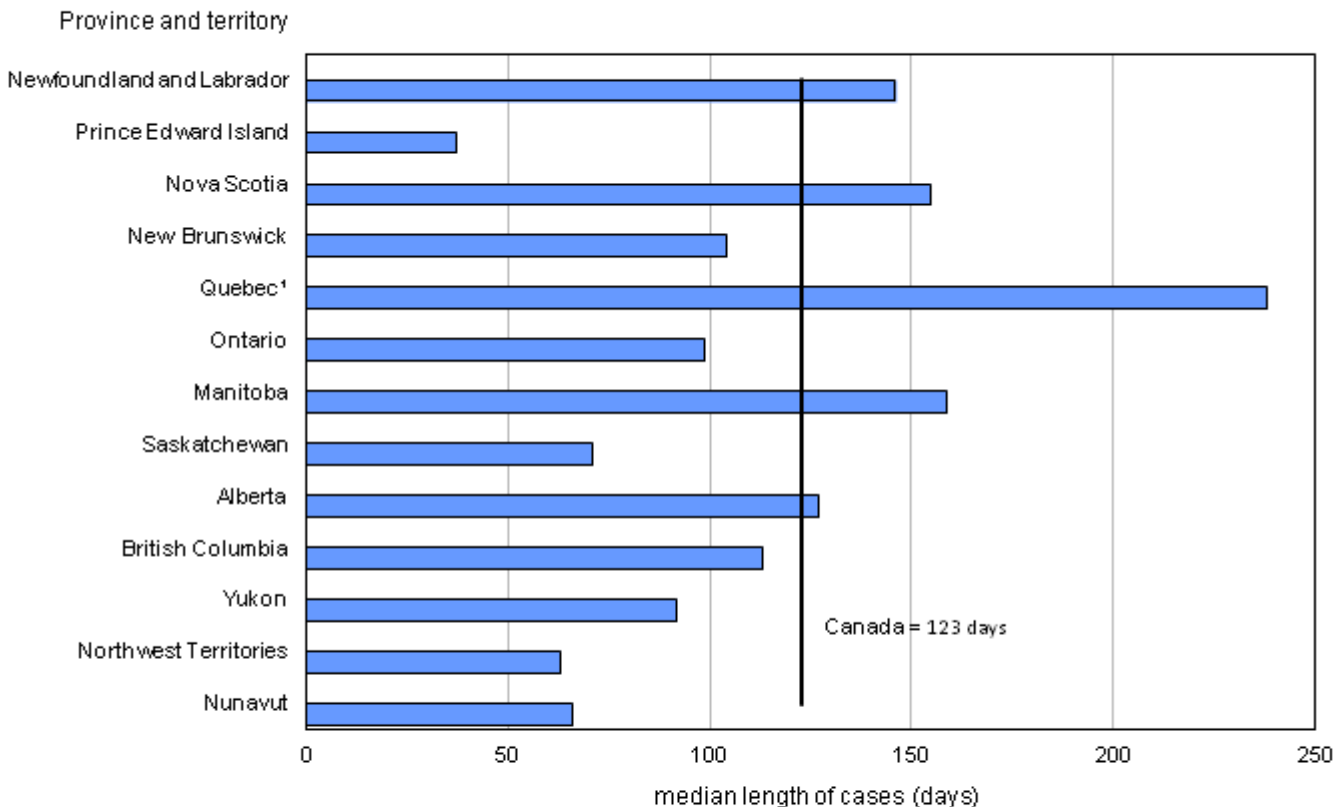
The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* outlines that an accused person has a fundamental right to be brought to trial in a timely manner.<sup>24</sup> While the *Charter* does not indicate a specific time limit that is required in criminal court cases, case law indicates that an 8 to 10 month period is considered to be a reasonable amount of time to be brought to trial. This has been affirmed by a number of Supreme Court rulings, such as *R. v. Askov* [1990]<sup>25</sup> and *R. v. Morin* [1992].<sup>26</sup>

In 2013/2014, the median amount of time from an individual's first court appearance to the completion of their case was 123 days (around 4 months), a slight increase from the years prior. The median number of court appearances it took to complete a case was 5.

Similar to previous years, Prince Edward Island had the shortest median case elapsed time, at 37 days, and Quebec had the longest, at 238 days (Table 2; Chart 8). Northwest Territories had the shortest median number of appearances in a case, at 2 appearances, while Manitoba and British Columbia had the longest, at 7 appearances.

Chart 8

### Median length of cases completed in adult criminal court, by province and territory, 2013/2014



1. The median length of case completion in Quebec may be over-estimated given that data from municipal courts, which tend to handle the least serious matters, are unavailable.

**Note:** Case lengths are calculated based on the number of days it takes to complete a case, from first appearance to final decision. The median is the point at which half of all cases had longer case lengths and half had shorter case lengths. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. There are many factors that may influence variations between jurisdictions, therefore, comparisons should be made with caution.

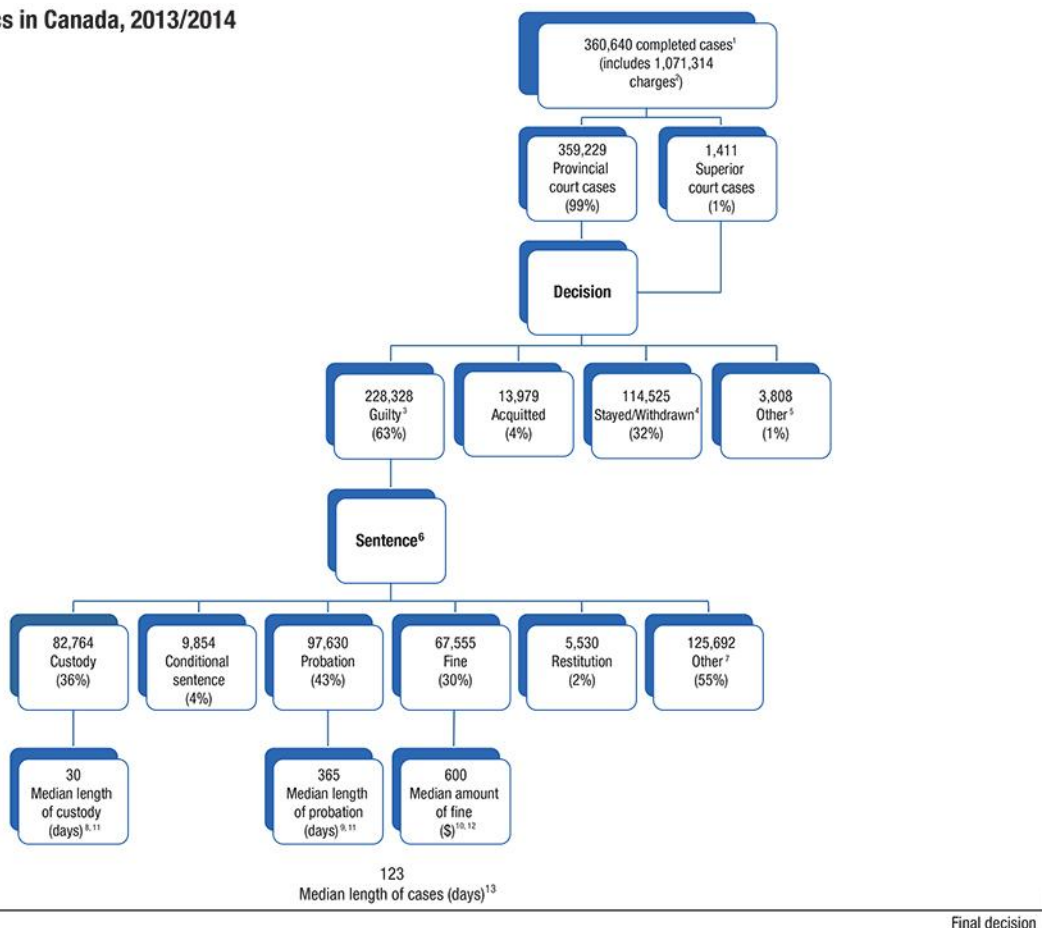
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

Cases involving more serious offences or multiple charges often take longer than others to complete. In 2013/2014, homicide cases took the longest to complete and were the only offence type with a median length longer than one year (451 days). This was followed by sexual assault cases (321 days), and attempted murder cases (314 days) (Table 3). Similarly, cases that involved multiple charges took much longer to complete than those that involved single charges (155 days and 87 days, respectively).<sup>27</sup>

Research has also demonstrated that there are several other factors that are often associated with longer case lengths, such as trial cases and those involving bench warrants. Cases involving a trial often require a lot of time and resources to hear all of the evidence, as well as the testimony of the witnesses and victim impact statements (Department of Justice Canada 2015). Cases involving bench warrants, in which the court issues a warrant of arrest for an accused person who fails to appear in court, also tend to be slowed by the delays resulting from having to re-apprehend an accused person (Thomas 2010).

## Completed adult criminal court cases in 2013/2014 at a glance

### Adult criminal court statistics in Canada, 2013/2014



1. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision.  
 2. A charge refers to a formal accusation against an accused person or company involving a federal statute offence that has been processed by the courts and received a final decision.  
 3. Guilty findings include guilty of the offence, of an included offence, of an attempt of the offence, or of an attempt of an included offence. Also includes guilty pleas, and cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.  
 4. Includes stays, withdrawals, dismissals and discharges at preliminary inquiry as well as court referrals to alternative or extrajudicial measures.  
 5. Includes final decisions of found not criminally responsible and waived out of province or territory. Also includes any order where a conviction was not recorded, the court's acceptance of a special plea, cases that raise *Charter* arguments and cases where the accused was found unfit to stand trial.  
 6. Cases may involve more than one type of sentence, therefore, percentages do not total 100%.  
 7. "Other" sentences include absolute and conditional discharge, suspended sentence, community service order and prohibition order among others.  
 8. Custodial sentence lengths exclude time spent in custody prior to sentencing and/or the amount of credit awarded for time spent in pre-sentence custody. Also excludes cases in which the length of the custody sentence was unknown or indeterminate. Length of custody information are not available from Manitoba.  
 9. Data exclude cases in which the length of the probation sentence was unknown or greater than 3 years. Length of probation information are not available from Manitoba.  
 10. Data exclude cases in which the amount of the fine was unknown. Amount of fine information are not available from Manitoba.  
 11. The median is the point at which half of all cases had longer sentence lengths and half had shorter sentence lengths.  
 12. The median is the point at which half of all cases had higher sentence amounts and half had lower sentence amounts.  
 13. Case lengths are calculated based on the number of days it takes to complete a case, from first appearance to final decision. The median is the point at which half of all cases had longer case lengths and half had shorter case lengths.  
**Note:** Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.  
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

## Survey description

The Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) is administered by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (Statistics Canada) in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for criminal courts in Canada. The survey collects statistical information on adult and youth court cases involving *Criminal Code* and other federal statute offences. Data contained in this article represent the adult criminal court portion of the survey, namely, individuals who were 18 years of age or older at the time of the offence.

The primary unit of analysis is a case. A case is defined as one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. A case combines all charges against the same person having one or more key overlapping dates (date of offence, date of initiation, date of first appearance, or date of decision) into a single case.

A case that has more than one charge is represented by the charge with the "most serious offence" (MSO). The most serious offence is selected using the following rules. First, court decisions are considered and the charge with the "most serious decision" (MSD) is selected. Court decisions for each charge in a case are ranked from most to least serious as follows: (1) guilty, (2) guilty of a lesser offence, (3) acquitted, (4) stay of proceeding, (5) withdrawn, dismissed or discharged, (6) not criminally responsible, (7) other, and (8) transfer of court jurisdiction.

Second, in cases where two or more charges result in the same MSD (e.g., guilty), *Criminal Code* sentences are considered. The charge with the most serious offence type is selected according to an offence seriousness scale, based on actual sentences handed down by courts in Canada.<sup>28</sup> Each offence type is ranked by looking at (1) the proportion of guilty charges where custody was imposed and (2) the average (mean) length of custody for the specific type of offence. These values are multiplied together to arrive at the final seriousness ranking for each type of offence. If, after looking at the offence seriousness scale, two or more charges remain tied then information about the sentence type and duration of the sentence are considered (e.g., custody and length of custody, then probation and length of probation, etc.).

In 2013/2014, ICCS coverage reflected all cases completed in adult Canadian criminal courts, with the exception of superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec. This data was not available for extraction from their electronic reporting systems and was therefore not reported to the survey.

The absence of data from superior courts in these five jurisdictions may have resulted in an underestimation of the severity of sentences since some of the most serious cases, which are likely to result in the most severe sentences, are processed in superior courts. There may also be an underestimation of case elapsed times as more serious cases generally require more court appearances and take more time to complete.

Cases are counted according to the fiscal year in which they are completed. Each year, the ICCS database is considered final at the end of March for the production of court statistics pertaining to the preceding fiscal year. However, these counts do not include cases that were pending an outcome at the end of the reference period. If a pending outcome is reached in the next fiscal year, then these cases are included in the completed case counts for that fiscal year. However, if a one-year period of inactivity elapses, then these cases are deemed complete and the originally published counts for the previous fiscal year are subsequently updated and reported in the next year's release of the data. Historically, updates to a previous year's counts have resulted in an increase of about 2%.

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## Notes

1. For information on youth court statistics in Canada, see Alam 2015.
2. Given the possible influence of various factors in the number and types of cases completed in adult criminal court, comparisons between jurisdictions should be interpreted with caution.
3. At the time of this publication, information reported to the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) demonstrated a 7.0% decline between 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 in the number of completed adult court cases. However, it is expected that updates received at a later date will result in an additional 2% in the number of cases for 2013/2014. For further information, see Survey description section.
4. In general, jurisdictions with smaller completed case counts tend to show more fluctuation in year-over-year percentage changes.
5. Adult criminal court cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence. For further information, see Survey description section.
6. Includes kidnapping, hostage taking, arson – disregard human life, making harassing phone calls, among others.
7. First and second degree murder cases are under exclusive jurisdiction of superior courts. As such, information on these types of cases is missing from Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan where superior court data are unavailable.
8. Includes arson – damage to property, possession of a break-in instrument, setting a fire by negligence, among others.
9. For information on offences against the administration of justice in Canada, see Burczycka and Munch 2015 (Forthcoming in Fall, 2015).
10. The following offence categories carry mandatory minimum penalties: homicide, attempted murder, robbery, sexual assault, other sexual offences, major assault, other violent crime offences, weapons, prostitution, impaired driving, among others. In total, there were 36 offences included in this analysis. Specific information on the *Criminal Code* sections, subsections, and paragraphs used in this analysis are available upon request.
11. Excludes other federal statute offences such as those related to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA) which also carry mandatory minimum sentences for particular offences.
12. Excludes cases involving companies and those in which the sex and/or age of the accused was unknown.
13. Based on data obtained from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey.
14. Populations based upon July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division (CANSIM 051-0001).
15. Populations are calculated on a calendar year basis, whereas ICCS data are based on a fiscal calendar year. As a result, 2013 adult population data (18 years and older) were used since the majority of ICCS data falls within this year.
16. Based upon information from ten provinces and territories that have consistently reported to the adult component of the ICCS since 2000/2001.
17. Guilty findings include guilty of the offence, of an included offence, or an attempt of the offence, or of an attempt of the included offence. Also includes guilty pleas, and cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.
18. In Newfoundland and Labrador, the terms 'acquittal' and 'dismissed' are used interchangeably, resulting in an under-count of the number of acquittals in that province. In other provinces, the number of acquittals may be over-counted due to administrative practices.
19. Other decisions include final decisions of found not criminally responsible and waived out of province or territory. This category also includes any order where a conviction was not recorded, the court's acceptance of a special plea, cases which raise *Charter* arguments and cases where the accused was found unfit to stand trial.
20. For further information on decisions of not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder, see Miladinovic and Lukassen 2014.
21. Custodial sentence lengths exclude time spent in custody prior to sentencing and/or the amount of credit awarded for time spent in pre-sentence custody.
22. Excludes cases in which the length of custody was unknown.
23. For further information on impaired driving, see Perreault 2013.
24. See *Constitution Act, 1982*. Part 1. *The Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, s. 11.
25. See *R. v. Askov* [1990], 2 S.C.R. 1199. In this decision, the Supreme Court affirmed the right of an accused to be brought to trial without excessive delay, by identifying four factors that must be considered when determining if delay has been



reasonable. These factors are the length of the delay, the explanation for the delay, waiver of the delay by the accused and any prejudice to the accused.

26. See *R. v. Morin* [1992], 71 C.C.C. (3d) 193 (S.C.C.). The judgment in *Morin* expanded on the ruling in *Askov* and indicated that that some delays in case processing may not be unreasonable, but the reasons behind the delays and the circumstances surrounding cases were very important in assessing whether delays were problematic.

27. In 2013/2014, multiple charge cases represented 60% of all cases completed in adult criminal court, while single charge cases represented 40%.

28. The offence seriousness scale is calculated using data from both the adult and youth components of the ICCS from 2006/2007 to 2010/2011.

## Detailed data tables

**Table 1**  
**Charges and cases completed in adult criminal court, Canada, 2005/2006 to 2013/2014**

Year	Total charges <sup>1</sup>		Total cases <sup>2</sup>	
	number	percent change from previous year	number	percent change from previous year
2005/2006	1,094,431	...	382,322	...
2006/2007	1,109,587	1.4	380,537	-0.5
2007/2008	1,151,509	3.8	393,193	3.3
2008/2009	1,187,324	3.1	398,697	1.4
2009/2010	1,224,191	3.1	410,051	2.8
2010/2011	1,224,787	0.0	409,957	0.0
2011/2012	1,196,169	-2.3	394,116	-3.9
2012/2013	1,182,345	-1.2	387,614	-1.6
2013/2014	1,071,314	-9.4	360,640	-7.0

... not applicable

1. A charge refers to a formal accusation against an accused person or company involving a federal statute offence that has been processed by the courts and received a final decision.

2. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision.

**Note:** Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

**Table 2**  
**Cases completed in adult criminal court, by province and territory, 2012/2013 and 2013/2014**

Province and territory	2012/2013		2013/2014		Percent change in number of cases 2012/2013 to 2013/2014	Difference in median length of cases 2012/2013 to 2013/2014
	number	median length of case (days) <sup>1</sup>	number	median length of case (days) <sup>1</sup>	percent	days
<b>Canada</b>	<b>387,614</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>360,640</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	5,439	113	5,150	146	-5	33
Prince Edward Island	1,432	35	1,312	37	-8	2
Nova Scotia	11,908	158	11,485	155	-4	-3
New Brunswick	7,784	94	7,341	104	-6	10
Quebec	74,051	215	62,844	238	-15	23
Ontario	144,399	93	133,890	99	-7	6
Manitoba	19,096	160	19,058	159	0	-1
Saskatchewan	23,781	78	23,053	71	-3	-7
Alberta	55,823	121	56,346	127	1	6
British Columbia	39,424	120	35,850	113	-9	-7
Yukon	931	98	985	92	6	-6
Northwest Territories	1,578	59	1,465	63	-7	4
Nunavut	1,968	55	1,861	66	-5	12

1. Case lengths are calculated based on the number of days it takes to complete a case, from first appearance to final decision. The median is the point at which half of all cases had longer case lengths and half had shorter case lengths.

**Note:** A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. There are many factors that may influence variations between jurisdictions, therefore, comparisons should be made with caution.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

**Table 3**  
**Cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence, Canada, 2012/2013 and 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	2012/2013		2013/2014		Percent change in number of cases 2012/2013 to 2013/2014	Difference in median length of cases 2012/2013 to 2013/2014
	number <sup>2</sup>	median length of case (days) <sup>3</sup>	number <sup>2</sup>	median length of case (days) <sup>3</sup>	percent	days
<b>Violent offences</b>	<b>91,033</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>84,862</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>5</b>
Homicide	243	485	258	451	6	-34
Attempted murder	145	315	186	314	28	-1
Robbery	3,985	220	3,388	223	-15	3
Sexual assault	3,204	309	3,002	321	-6	12
Other sexual offences <sup>4</sup>	3,307	307	3,462	305	5	-2
Major assault <sup>5</sup>	20,547	194	19,232	198	-6	4
Common assault	35,863	132	33,630	134	-6	2
Uttering threats	17,559	154	15,810	161	-10	7
Criminal harassment	3,158	156	3,175	166	1	10
Other violent offences	3,022	229	2,719	226	-10	-3
<b>Property offences</b>	<b>88,664</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>82,187</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>6</b>
Theft <sup>6</sup>	39,318	71	36,364	73	-8	2
Break and enter	10,864	164	9,609	176	-12	12
Fraud	12,130	169	11,381	170	-6	1
Mischief	13,771	107	13,041	113	-5	6
Possess stolen property	10,987	98	10,371	100	-6	2
Other property offences	1,594	174	1,421	147	-11	-27
<b>Administration of justice offences</b>	<b>85,554</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>82,116</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>4</b>
Fail to appear	4,565	82	4,389	71	-4	-11
Breach of probation	32,742	58	31,334	63	-4	5
Unlawfully at large	2,512	18	2,595	13	3	-5
Fail to comply with order	37,232	79	35,516	85	-5	6
Other administration of justice offences	8,503	127	8,282	133	-3	6
<b>Other Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>16,791</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>15,272</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>-6</b>
Weapons	9,682	180	9,020	173	-7	-7
Prostitution	896	106	903	108	1	2
Disturbing the peace	1,452	64	1,316	59	-9	-5
Residual <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	4,761	197	4,033	211	-15	14
<b><i>Criminal Code</i> (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>282,042</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>264,437</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences</b>	<b>52,413</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>48,334</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>20</b>
Impaired driving	42,048	115	38,635	141	-8	26
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	10,365	169	9,699	171	-6	2

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 3 — continued**  
**Cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence, Canada, 2012/2013 and 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	2012/2013		2013/2014		Percent change in number of cases 2012/2013 to 2013/2014	Difference in median length of cases 2012/2013 to 2013/2014
	number <sup>2</sup>	median length of case (days) <sup>3</sup>	number <sup>2</sup>	median length of case (days) <sup>3</sup>	percent	days
<b>Total Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>334,455</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>312,771</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Other federal statute offences</b>	<b>53,159</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>47,869</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>-2</b>
Drug possession	16,303	85	14,925	87	-8	2
Other drug offences <sup>7</sup>	11,577	258	10,100	254	-13	-4
Youth Criminal Justice Act	1,214	52	1,132	48	-7	-4
Residual federal statute offences	24,065	141	21,712	135	-10	-6
<b>Total offences</b>	<b>387,614</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>360,640</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>3</b>

1. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence.

2. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision.

3. Case lengths are calculated based on the number of days it takes to complete a case, from first appearance to final decision. The median is the point at which half of all cases had longer case lengths and half had shorter case lengths.

4. Includes, for example, sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, child pornography, luring a child via a computer and sexual exploitation.

5. Includes, for example, assault with a weapon (level 2) and aggravated assault (level 3).

6. Includes, for example, theft over \$5,000, theft \$5,000 or under, as well as motor vehicle theft.

7. Includes drug trafficking, production, importing and exporting.

**Note:** Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

**Table 4**  
**Cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence and sex of the accused,**  
**Canada, 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	Male		Female	
	number <sup>2</sup>	percent	number <sup>2</sup>	percent
<b>Violent offences</b>	<b>63,445</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>13,720</b>	<b>18</b>
Homicide	196	87.5	28	12.5
Attempted murder	156	88	22	12
Robbery	2,723	89	353	11
Sexual assault	2,638	99	38	1
Other sexual offences <sup>3</sup>	2,966	97	106	3
Major assault <sup>4</sup>	13,359	78	3,802	22
Common assault	24,054	78	6,977	22
Uttering threats	12,793	88	1,686	12
Criminal harassment	2,480	87	360	13
Other violent offences	2,080	86	348	14
<b>Property offences</b>	<b>55,676</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>21,326</b>	<b>28</b>
Theft <sup>5</sup>	22,247	65	12,059	35
Break and enter	7,721	88	1,028	12
Fraud	7,084	67	3,469	33
Mischief	10,204	83	2,042	17
Possess stolen property	7,266	74	2,567	26
Other property offences	1,154	88	161	12
<b>Administration of justice offences</b>	<b>59,912</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>13,329</b>	<b>18</b>
Fail to appear	3,195	75	1,046	25
Breach of probation	23,118	83	4,596	17
Unlawfully at large	1,888	91	193	9
Fail to comply with order	25,905	82	5,874	18
Other administration of justice offences	5,806	78	1,620	22
<b>Other Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>11,684</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>14</b>
Weapons	7,317	90	792	10
Prostitution	588	71	235	29
Disturbing the peace	1,021	81	243	19
Residual <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	2,758	82	591	18
<b>Criminal Code (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>190,717</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>50,236</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Criminal Code traffic offences</b>	<b>37,231</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>7,844</b>	<b>17</b>
Impaired driving	29,238	81	6,716	19
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	7,993	88	1,128	12
<b>Total Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>227,948</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>58,080</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Other federal statute offences</b>	<b>37,195</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>6,548</b>	<b>15</b>
Drug possession	12,236	86	2,071	14
Other drug offences <sup>6</sup>	7,414	80	1,882	20
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	720	81	166	19
Residual federal statute offences	16,825	87	2,429	13
<b>Total offences</b>	<b>265,143</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>64,628</b>	<b>20</b>

1. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence.

2. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision.

3. Includes, for example, sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, child pornography, luring a child via a computer and sexual exploitation.

4. Includes, for example, assault with a weapon (level 2) and aggravated assault (level 3).

5. Includes, for example, theft over \$5,000, theft \$5,000 or under, as well as motor vehicle theft.

6. Includes drug trafficking, production, importing and exporting.

**Note:** Includes information on accused persons aged 18 years or over at the time of the offence. Data excludes cases in which the age and/or the sex of the accused was unknown. Excludes information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data. Information on the sex of the accused is not available from Manitoba.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

**Table 5**  
**Cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence and decision, Canada, 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	Guilty <sup>2</sup>		Stayed/withdrawn <sup>3</sup>		Acquitted		Other decisions <sup>4</sup>		Total cases	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
<b>Violent offences</b>	<b>42,267</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>34,644</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>6,530</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,421</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>84,862</b>	<b>100</b>
Homicide	137	53	106	41	8	3	7	3	258	100
Attempted murder	38	20	120	65	9	5	19	10	186	100
Robbery	2,005	59	1,207	36	138	4	38	1	3,388	100
Sexual assault	1,357	45	1,333	44	269	9	43	1	3,002	100
Other sexual offences <sup>5</sup>	1,984	57	1,192	34	230	7	56	2	3,462	100
Major assault <sup>6</sup>	10,188	53	7,167	37	1,577	8	300	2	19,232	100
Common assault	15,867	47	15,493	46	1,835	5	435	1	33,630	100
Uttering threats	8,154	52	5,523	35	1,811	11	322	2	15,810	100
Criminal harassment	1,470	46	1,235	39	362	11	108	3	3,175	100
Other violent offences	1,067	39	1,268	47	291	11	93	3	2,719	100
<b>Property offences</b>	<b>48,601</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>31,188</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,667</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>82,187</b>	<b>100</b>
Theft <sup>7</sup>	22,100	61	13,657	38	364	1	243	1	36,364	100
Break and enter	6,534	68	2,498	26	442	5	135	1	9,609	100
Fraud	7,107	62	3,864	34	233	2	177	2	11,381	100
Mischief	6,982	54	5,631	43	336	3	92	1	13,041	100
Possess stolen property	4,911	47	5,144	50	254	2	62	1	10,371	100
Other property offences	967	68	394	28	38	3	22	2	1,421	100
<b>Administration of justice offences</b>	<b>59,217</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>20,758</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>82,116</b>	<b>100</b>
Fail to appear	2,015	46	2,316	53	14	0	44	1	4,389	100
Breach of probation	25,121	80	5,441	17	566	2	206	1	31,334	100
Unlawfully at large	2,147	83	376	14	52	2	20	1	2,595	100
Fail to comply with order	24,159	68	10,421	29	676	2	260	1	35,516	100
Other administration of justice offences	5,775	70	2,204	27	195	2	108	1	8,282	100
<b>Other Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>9,237</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5,293</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15,272</b>	<b>100</b>
Weapons	5,741	64	2,859	32	345	4	75	1	9,020	100
Prostitution	204	23	662	73	35	4	2	0	903	100
Disturbing the peace	831	63	476	36	7	1	2	0	1,316	100
Residual <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	2,461	61	1,296	32	201	5	75	2	4,033	100
<b>Criminal Code (excluding traffic) offences</b>	<b>159,322</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>91,883</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>10,288</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2,944</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>264,437</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Criminal Code traffic offences</b>	<b>37,825</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>8,001</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2,224</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48,334</b>	<b>100</b>
Impaired driving	30,092	78	6,354	16	1,996	5	193	0	38,635	100
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	7,733	80	1,647	17	228	2	91	1	9,699	100

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 5 — continued**  
**Cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence and decision, Canada, 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	Guilty <sup>2</sup>		Stayed/withdrawn <sup>3</sup>		Acquitted		Other decisions <sup>4</sup>		Total cases	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
<b>Total Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>197,147</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>99,884</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>12,512</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,228</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>312,771</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Other federal statute offences</b>	<b>31,181</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>14,641</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1,467</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>47,869</b>	<b>100</b>
Drug possession	6,916	46	7,912	53	34	0	63	0	14,925	100
Other drug offences <sup>8</sup>	5,368	53	4,540	45	108	1	84	1	10,100	100
Youth Criminal Justice Act	790	70	334	30	4	0	4	0	1,132	100
Residual federal statute offences	18,107	83	1,855	9	1,321	6	429	2	21,712	100
<b>Total offences</b>	<b>228,328</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>114,525</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>13,979</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>360,640</b>	<b>100</b>

1. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence.

2. Guilty findings include guilty of the offence, of an included offence, of an attempt of the offence, or of an attempt of an included offence. Also includes guilty pleas, and cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.

3. Includes stays, withdrawals, dismissals and discharges at preliminary inquiry as well as court referrals to alternative or extrajudicial measures.

4. Includes final decisions of found not criminally responsible and waived out of province or territory. Also includes any order where a conviction was not recorded, the court's acceptance of a special plea, cases that raise *Charter* arguments and cases where the accused was found unfit to stand trial.

5. Includes, for example, sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, child pornography, luring a child via a computer and sexual exploitation.

6. Includes, for example, assault with a weapon (level 2) and aggravated assault (level 3).

7. Includes, for example, theft over \$5,000, theft \$5,000 or under, as well as motor vehicle theft.

8. Includes drug trafficking, production, importing and exporting.

**Note:** A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

**Table 6**  
**Guilty cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence and select sentence,**  
**Canada, 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	Total guilty cases		Custody <sup>2</sup>		Probation <sup>3</sup>			Fine <sup>4</sup>		
	number	number	percent	median length (days) <sup>5</sup>	number	percent	median length (days) <sup>5</sup>	number	percent	median amount (dollars) <sup>6</sup>
<b>Violent offences</b>	<b>42,267</b>	<b>15,125</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>30,356</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>2,862</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>300</b>
Homicide	137	98	72	2,190	11	8	548	3	2	1,275
Attempted murder	38	29	76	1,813	2	5	730	0	0	...
Robbery	2,005	1,630	81	365	1,030	51	730	21	1	150
Sexual assault	1,357	748	55	300	885	65	720	25	2	750
Other sexual offences <sup>7</sup>	1,984	1,325	67	180	1,353	68	730	66	3	300
Major assault <sup>8</sup>	10,188	4,853	48	90	6,620	65	365	611	6	400
Common assault	15,867	2,549	16	30	12,221	77	365	1,291	8	400
Uttering threats	8,154	2,960	36	30	6,202	76	365	724	9	250
Criminal harassment	1,470	429	29	45	1,306	89	545	63	4	350
Other violent offences	1,067	504	47	180	726	68	545	58	5	300
<b>Property offences</b>	<b>48,601</b>	<b>19,953</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28,329</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>6,782</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>250</b>
Theft <sup>9</sup>	22,100	9,067	41	27	12,106	55	365	3,955	18	200
Break and enter	6,534	3,897	60	120	4,231	65	540	228	3	400
Fraud	7,107	2,554	36	48	4,342	61	365	775	11	300
Mischief	6,982	1,483	21	15	4,724	68	365	1,013	15	300
Possess stolen property	4,911	2,356	48	45	2,371	48	365	752	15	400
Other property offences	967	596	62	60	555	57	450	59	6	200
<b>Administration of justice offences</b>	<b>59,217</b>	<b>29,719</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18,651</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>13,384</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>250</b>
Fail to appear	2,015	846	42	7	511	25	365	611	30	150
Breach of probation	25,121	14,171	56	17	8,886	35	365	4,926	20	250
Unlawfully at large	2,147	1,873	87	15	383	18	365	154	7	200
Fail to comply with order	24,159	10,896	45	9	6,560	27	365	6,074	25	200
Other administration of justice offences	5,775	1,933	33	20	2,311	40	365	1,619	28	300
<b>Other Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>9,237</b>	<b>3,747</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>4,532</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>1,745</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>300</b>
Weapons	5,741	2,316	40	60	2,749	48	365	1,110	19	300
Prostitution	204	48	24	127	87	43	365	54	26	275
Disturbing the peace	831	217	26	13	362	44	360	241	29	250
Residual <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	2,461	1,166	47	120	1,334	54	450	340	14	300
<b>Criminal Code (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>159,322</b>	<b>68,544</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>81,868</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>24,773</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Criminal Code traffic offences</b>	<b>37,825</b>	<b>6,343</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>29,617</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1,200</b>
Impaired driving	30,092	2,783	9	33	3,324	11	365	26,714	89	1,200
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	7,733	3,560	46	45	2,579	33	365	2,903	38	1,000

See notes at the end of the table.



**Table 6 — continued**  
**Guilty cases completed in adult criminal court, by type of offence and select sentence,**  
**Canada, 2013/2014**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	Total guilty cases		Custody <sup>2</sup>		Probation <sup>3</sup>			Fine <sup>4</sup>		
	number	number	percent	median length (days) <sup>5</sup>	number	percent	median length (days) <sup>5</sup>	number	percent	median amount (dollars) <sup>6</sup>
<b>Total Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>197,147</b>	<b>74,887</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>87,771</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>54,390</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Other federal statute offences</b>	<b>31,181</b>	<b>7,877</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>9,859</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>13,165</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>250</b>
Drug possession	6,916	758	11	10	2,258	33	365	3,363	49	300
Other drug offences <sup>10</sup>	5,368	2,438	45	210	1,571	29	365	374	7	900
Youth Criminal Justice Act	790	287	36	7	225	28	360	234	30	200
Residual federal statute offences	18,107	4,394	24	90	5,805	32	365	9,194	51	200
<b>Total offences</b>	<b>228,328</b>	<b>82,764</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>97,630</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>67,555</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>600</b>

... not applicable

1. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence.

2. Custodial sentence lengths exclude time spent in custody prior to sentencing and/or the amount of credit awarded for time spent in pre-sentence custody. Also excludes cases in which the length of the custody sentence was unknown or indeterminate. Length of custody data are not available from Manitoba.

3. Excludes cases in which the length of the probation sentence was unknown or greater than three years. Length of probation data are not available from Manitoba.

4. Excludes cases in which the amount of the fine was unknown. Amount of fine data are not available from Manitoba.

5. The median is the point at which half of all cases had longer sentence lengths and half had shorter sentence lengths.

6. The median is the point at which half of all cases had higher sentence amounts and half had lower sentence amounts.

7. Includes, for example, sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, child pornography, luring a child via a computer and sexual exploitation.

8. Includes, for example, assault with a weapon (level 2) and aggravated assault (level 3).

9. Includes, for example, theft over \$5,000, theft \$5,000 or under, as well as motor vehicle theft.

10. Includes drug trafficking, production, importing and exporting.

**Note:** Cases may involve more than one type of sentence and/or other sentences not shown, therefore, percentages do not total 100%. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Data exclude information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec due to the unavailability of data.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.